

Message Text

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14

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 /018 R

DRAFTED BY EB/IFD/OSB:RHJONES:CEK

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NEA/EGY:GBROWN

COM/CAGNE:CLOUSTANNAU

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R 210107Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, EG, USEGJC

SUBJECT: U.S. FIRM DENIES PORT SAID INTEREST

REF: CAIRO 8768

1. PURSUANT REFTEL DEPARTMENT CONTACTED BECTON, DICKINSON AND CO. WHO DISAVOWED ANY PLANS TO EVER OPERATE IN PORT SAID FREE ZONE. COMPANY OFFICIAL INDICATED THAT THEY WERE INTERESTED IN PRODUCING A VARIETY OF PRODUCTS INSIDE EGYPT BUT THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH GOE HAD NOT EVEN PROGRESSED TO THE POINT OF A FORMAL PROPOSAL MUCH LESS A REJECTION OR PRO-

JECT ABANDONMENT.

2. APPARENTLY, ACTION MENTIONED IN REFTEL WAS TAKEN BY LOCAL AGENTS OF THE COMPANY IN A QUOTE ABORTIVE ATTEMPT TO GET A PIECE OF THE ACTION END QUOTE. COMPANY CLAIMS IGNORANCE OF AGENTS ACTIONS AND INTENDS TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS WITH GOE.

3. COMPANY'S AVERSION TO THE FREE ZONE IS BASED ON
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THEIR INABILITY TO PRODUCE PRODUCTS ECONOMICALLY THERE AS

THEY ARE RELATIVELY CAPITAL INTENSIVE. ON THE OTHER HAND
COMPANY JUDGES EGYTIAN DOMESTIC MARKET TO BE POTENTIALLY

PROFITABLE. THEY REALIZE THAT EGYPT IS NOT YET READY FOR
THEIR FACILITY BUT THEY ARE TRYING TO ESTABLISH THEIR
PRESENCE GRADUALLY. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), FREE TRADE AREAS
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Draft Date: 21 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: RHJONES:CEK
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Review Authority: KelleyW0
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